

Development Authority of Lumpkin County Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2014
Conference Room, Lumpkin County Administration Building

Board Members in attendance: Kathy Crafton, Jim Curtis, Donna Gessell, John Gaston, Jim Higdon, J.B. Jones, Jason Cox

Associate Members/Guests in attendance: Joy Edelberg, Jane O’Gorman, Kathy Papa, Chris Dockery, Suzanne Waller, Gerald Lewy

Meeting called to order by Chairman Jim Curtis at 9:01am

Motion to approve agenda: Jim Higdon. Second: J. B. Jones. Motion carried.

Motion to approve February 18, 2014 minutes: Motion to approve: Donna Gessell. Second: Jim Higdon. Motion carried.

Associate members reports: BOC Chair Chris Dockery discussed Senate Bill 299 for local watershed protection plans and stated he is developing a committee to study the watershed needs for the county. Chris reported the Frogtown Fire Station land is cleared. He noted meeting with DCA representatives at the site to show the need for the grant. Chris was able to get the application fees waived. Chris mentioned the shipping containers as rentals is a tough issue that will be discussed tonight at the BOC. Road paving will start as soon as weather permits. Takeaway from the retreat- 5 strategic objectives. Chris has assigned one to each commissioner. City of Dahlonega is having a new members retreat and Chris hopes to be able to have a joint retreat soon.

Kathy Crafton asked Chris what the status was of the Joint Visioning Project. Chris stated he felt like it has gotten off base from what it was originally supposed to be. Chris wants Chamber to take the lead and address what we want to accomplish.

Jane O’Gorman with UNG reported the students were on spring break. The college is continuing with public strategic planning meetings. Jane announced the Mike Cottrell College of Business was #20 on a list of more than 60 universities for Veterans according to the Military Times. The Inspirational Leaders and Scholarship Ball will be held at the Forsyth Campus. Continuing Ed is hosting the Taste of the Mountains tonight.

Kathy Papa with DCA announced a new program called Plan First that rewards communities that implement their strategic plan. These communities will receive extra points on grant applications and have access to rate specials for financing. Deadline to submit plan is May 15.

Sean Phipps from LC Water & Sewer Authority reported deadline for grant application for extension to Camelot is April 1. Grant Application made for ARC Grant for water storage on GA 400 and GEFA loan for matching funds. Should have an answer by May. System will provide an alternative water supply and dept is expecting splost funds for some costs.

Financials Prepared by Bates Carter reported by Kathy Crafton – nothing unusual, March loss \$2000, YTD loss \$10,000. Motion to accept financial reports: John Gaston. Second: Jim Higdon. Motion carried.

RFP was issued and Dee has sent out to several contacts. Dee noted the final spec from Planning Director Larry Reiter determined the maximum size of the building is 30,000.

Motion to adjourn: J. B. Jones. Second: Jim Higdon. Meeting adjourned at 9:29AM

Approved